

## New-York Daily Tribune

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 1863.

## NEWS OF THE DAY.

## THE WAR.

—We have some additional news by telegraph and letters from Hooker's army. His own statement is substantially as follows: He has recrossed the Rappahannock with his entire army, and occupied the old encampments, without the loss of a wagon or an ounce of provisions. He has taken one more gun than he has lost. He has lost, in killed, wounded and missing, about 10,000 men (other accounts represent it even smaller), and believes the enemy's loss to be much greater, as the other eye-witnesses of the fighting. (A note by a Confederate surgeon puts it at 18,000, and an intercepted confidential dispatch from Lee admits it to be "terrible.") Twenty-five hundred prisoners are in Gen. Hooker's hands. He has shattered and demoralized the Rebel army, while his own remains well-organized and in good heart. He is himself tranquil and in good spirits. Among the reasons assigned in well-informed quarters for the retrograde movement are: First: The flight of the 11th corps, which rendered Gen. Sickles's movement nugatory and forced the army out of the carefully selected field of battle to which Gen. Hooker referred in his General Order of April 30, and compelled it to receive the enemy's attack among densely wooded hills where it was impossible to bring all or nearly all our troops into action. Second: The rising of the Rappahannock, in consequence of the storm, which was likely to endanger the line of communications between the army and its supplies, particularly as the railroad communication with Aquia Creek had been destroyed by the floods for twelve hours at Brooks's Station. Third: Ignorance of the success of Gen. Stoneman's expedition, from which Gen. Hooker did not hear until he had recrossed.

—Gen. Stoneman's late expedition was the most daring and successful cavalry raid during the war. When Jeb. Stuart rode around McClellan's army he did no damage beyond stealing a few horses. Stoneman's men have ravaged the entire country between Lee and Richmond, gone within three miles of the Rebel capital (and might have gone through it and made it a desert if their instructions had permitted), broken all railroad communication, broken up the James River Canal, and raised the mischief generally. They have doubtless all, or nearly all, come safely off, one column having gone down the far-famed Chickahominy and come out under our flag on the York River. The entire movement was a grand success, and puts in the deepest kind of a shade any and all the boasted performances of the Centaurs of the Chivalry, the bragbarts who, like their prototype Dazzle in the play, boast that they were born on horseback.

—President Lincoln has issued a proclamation explaining the position of aliens under the Drafting law. No plea of allegiance will be received or allowed to exempt from the obligations imposed by the act of Congress any person of foreign birth who shall have declared on oath his intention to become a citizen of the United States, and who shall be found within the United States at any time during the continuance of the present Rebellion, or at or after the expiration of sixty-five days from the date of this proclamation, nor shall any such plea of allegiance be allowed in favor of any such person who has so as aforesaid declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States, and shall have exercised at any time the right of suffrage, or any other political franchise within the United States.

—Collector Bullitt of New-Orleans has decided to refuse permits for the shipment of merchandise to any part of the interior of Louisiana. The British steamer Neptune, from Greenock via Havana, ran the blockade off Mobile April 15th. The U. S. bark W. G. Anderson on the 15th of April captured the Rebel schooner Royal Yacht with 97 bales of cotton from Galveston. The Harriet Lane, the above prize's Captain says, was run out Jan. 24, without masts, at night, from Galveston. He says he was in Galveston at the time. Lieut. Warley took her out; but this same Capt. Saunders of the prize had charge of her for some time after she was captured.

—Our correspondent with the Yazoo expedition sends some interesting items, but not so late as the dispatches by way of Cairo. He says Sherman's expedition returned on the 1st. In the attack on Grand Gulf the Tusculum was disabled temporarily. The gunboats and six transports ran the blockade. Gen. Grant, with his forces, crossed the Mississippi on the 30th, and is marching to Port Gibson. The Union troops are enthusiastic, moving with great rapidity. There is every prospect of the early fall of Vicksburg. Gen. Grant ran the blockade in a tug.

—In Philadelphia, yesterday, one of the brave boys who has risked his life for the starry flag tore down a lying bulletin at the office of a traitorous print called *The Age*. Some Secession sympathizers undertook to make a row about it, but were on the point of getting what they deserved, when Mayor Henry came up and restored order. Cheers were given for Mayor Henry and Gen. Hooker.

—The 5th Regiment Duryee Zouaves reached this city yesterday afternoon and were received by several military and civic organizations, and a multitude of enthusiastic friends of this brave and patriotic regiment. A dinner under the auspices of the Common Council was provided for them at the City Assembly Rooms where good things were said and sung and swallowed.

—A note written by a Rebel surgeon and found on a prisoner, says that the losses of Lee's army amount to 18,000. This was written after the battle. Lee himself in a late confidential dispatch, intercepted and brought to our lines, says his losses are terrific. The fight in Richmond was quite as great as at first represented, though the Rebel papers are silent on the subject.

—A propeller arrived at Fortress Monroe on Thursday from Newbern, having left there on the 5th. There was no news—all quiet. On the way she spoke a boat from Hilton Head, which also had no news. Gen. Foster was still at Newbern.

—We have Admiral Porter's official report of the taking of Grand Gulf, for which see other columns. It was a great affair, and of vast importance to the Union cause; at Washington it is considered a fair offset for Gen. Hooker's temporary retreat.

—The Provost-Marshal at Murfreesboro has ordered no more passes to be given at present to women to go to ward Nashville or within the army lines, as this is the season for active military operations, and criminals will be in the way.

—Some men who claimed to be French subjects to escape the Rebel draft at Shreveport, La., were tarred and cottoned and serenaded with the "Rogue's March"—so say the Rebel papers.

—Some of our men, while on the way down James River on Tuesday to be exchanged, say that they saw two columns of Longstreet's army coming from Suffolk toward Richmond.

—Nearly 1,000 wounded arrived to-day from Aquia Creek. They have been distributed among the hospitals in Washington and vicinity.

—Secretary Stanton telegraphs to Gov. Curtin of Pennsylvania, that the Army of the Potomac will soon resume offensive operations.

—We print this morning some interesting details of Gen. Sedgwick's hot fight on the left wing of Hooker's army.

—Maj.-Gen. Dix and staff left Fortress Monroe on Thursday for York River. This looks like work.

—The story that Stoneman captured and paroled a large number of Rebel prisoners is repeated.

## GENERAL NEWS.

—The Central Loyal Union League met last evening at Cooper Institute and perfected its organization by electing James T. Brady as President; James Kelly of the Eighteenth Ward, and Joseph H. Toome of the Twenty-second Ward as Vice-Presidents; R. David of the Eighth Ward as Recording Secretary; Isaac L. Egbert of the Fourteenth Ward as Corresponding Secretary; Chas. S. Spencer as Treasurer; and John Cooper Sergeant-at-Arms. The Constitution providing for seven delegates from each ward instead of five, the Secretary was directed to notify ward officers to that effect. Mr. Brady was not present at the meeting, but Mr. Kelly and Mr. Toome made brief speeches in response to the announcement of their election as Vice-Presidents. A special meeting will be held in about a fortnight to inaugurate Mr. Brady as President of the Central League.

—A convention met at Parkersburg on the 5th, to nominate officers for the new State of West Virginia, and adjourned on Thursday, having made the following nominations: For Governor, A. J. Boreman of Parkersburg; Secretary of State, J. E. Boyer of Middletown; Treasurer, Campbell Tarr of Brooke County; Auditor, Samuel Crane of Wheeling; Judges, R. L. Werkhiser of Morgantown, William A. Harrison of Clarkburg, and James H. Brown of Kanawha; Attorney-General, A. B. Caldwell of Wheeling.

—Ever since the war broke out, the citizens of Jersey City have been afflicted with a bitter Copperhead newspaper. For the past year it was the only daily journal published in that city, and consequently many loyal citizens have been compelled to patronize it in matters of legal printing, &c. A thorough first-class Union paper, called *The Jersey City Daily Advocate*, has just been started, and no doubt will receive a hearty support from all Union-loving citizens.

—Detectives Dusenbury and Roach arrested Frank Reid, Christopher McGowan and Thomas Craig yesterday afternoon, during the procession, for following poor women at different points on Broadway, from the Park up to Walker street, and picking their pockets. When taken to Police Headquarters, two pocket-books and a silver watch were found on one, and a small amount in Treasury notes and postage currency on one of the others.

—Last night, Roger Hunt went into a lager-bier saloon in William street, when he was robbed by Augustus Amhall, one of the waiters, of his pocket-book, containing the sum of \$1,200. The girl was arrested by Officer Williams of the Twenty-sixth Precinct, and locked up. Capt. Thorne recovered the money, which the girl had hid away in the saloon. The pocket-book was fished out of the sink.

—Vera Cruz advices to April 14 had been received at New-Orleans direct. *The Eco del Comercio* of the 14th concludes that in 30 days, more or less, we may expect the occupation of the capital of the Republic by the French army. It thinks that the investiture of Puebla is sufficient to compel the garrison to surrender. This paper adheres to the party of Gen. Almonte.

—A new and excellent charitable institution, under the title of the "New-York Society for the Relief of the Ruptured and Crippled," has just been opened at No. 97 Second avenue, under the immediate charge of Dr. James Knight. John C. Green is the President, Robt. B. Minturn and Jas. Lenox Vice-Presidents of the Society.

—Patrick, alias Thomas McGovern, was shot dead on Thursday night by James O'Hara, alias "Butch," in the porter-house No. 68 Oliver street. An inquest was held, and a verdict rendered of "Death by a pistol wound, at the hands of James O'Hara." The murderer is yet at large.

—A stated meeting of the managers of the American Bible Society was held yesterday, when reports were presented by the Secretary relative to the number of Bibles, Testaments, Tracts, and other religious documents distributed during the month.

—The Canadian Ministry were defeated on Thursday night, on a vote of want of confidence, by a majority of five. The dissolution of Parliament and a general election, it is expected, will be ordered.

—The steamship Potomac, from Portland, Me., with merchandise and passengers, went ashore yesterday morning on Fishland's Reef, Hell Gate, but has not received any serious damage.

—Solomon Kohnsamm, charged with defrauding the Government, was yesterday required by the United States Circuit Court to find bail in the sum of \$50,000. He is still in custody.

—The iron ship Canada was lost at sea a few days ago. The wreck was boarded off the banks on the 3d inst., by the brig Attila—nobody on board, boats gone, crew probably in them.

—The Commissioners of Public Health have directed the City Inspector to investigate the matter concerning typhus fever in this city.

—Councilman James Hogan died yesterday morning of brain fever. He has been in the Common Council since 1859.

—Most of the Anglo-Saxon first-class passengers reached Halifax yesterday in the steamer Merlin, from St. John's.

—The marauding Indians in Utah were caught on the 4th by the 2d California Infantry, and 53 of them killed.

—The business of the morning Board was very large, and the improvement of tone noticed at the close of business on Thursday was fully maintained. The advices from Washington were accepted as much more encouraging than had been expected; and the demand for the leading shares was great, at advancing prices. In Governments there was not much done and the market was without change of importance. At the Second Board there was less excitement, but quotations were generally well sustained. The general market was firm. At the 4 o'clock call the market was active, and quotations were well sustained. The gold speculators for the rise were thoroughly smashed yesterday. After selling at 154 1/2 for 155, they were forced to buy at 155 1/2 for 156 for the purpose of influencing the market, advanced to 156. From this point, with a few feeble reactions, the quotations settled down late in the day to 154, about the price it stood at before the retreat of Hooker's army. The demand for Money is active and the rates of interest on call loans are established at 5 1/2 per cent, in many cases 7 per cent has been paid.

Mr. JOHN L. GREEN of Syracuse is perhaps the ablest and most efficient Copperhead in the center of our State, and if it is he who is organizing K. G. C. lodges throughout the interior, he will be apt to make trouble. *The Utica Herald* publishes the following as a confidential letter to one of his traveling agents, dated at New York, April 9, 1863.

DEAR SIR: You will excuse me for addressing you, a stranger to me, but from what I hear of you we need no formal introduction. We are both true Democrats, and, as such, are friends at sight. My object in addressing you on this occasion is to learn if there can be organized in your town a circle of the K. G. C. so terrible to the Abolitionists. You are aware that they are organizing their "Union League" everywhere, and unless we are up and doing they will beat us at the next general election. Having been chosen by our friends in New-York City as traveling agent for Central New-York, I shall soon give you a call. I am not able to leave the city at this time, but will advise you of my visit in time for you to call in a few reliable friends for consultation. I shall have for me, for they are more than half Abolitionists and may be trusted with our secret; but call in these staunch Democrats that can't be swayed from our party on any account. I enclose I send you the badge of our Order. All sworn members wear it on all public occasions, and may wear it at all times. They are open to the public to wear, for the reason that the more they are worn the more it disgraces our Order, and it is harmless in the hands of the public, for none will be recognized as members without the mystic grip, which I hope to communicate to you when we meet. Yours truly, J. L. GREEN.

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Yours truly, J. L. GREEN.

The aspect of affairs last night was such as to inspire much more cheerful feelings than prevailed on Thursday. Admiral Porter's splendid victory in the capture of Grand Gulf, giving hopeful anticipation of an early reduction of Vicksburg; Gen. Grant's march toward Port Hudson with a force not likely to meet with serious impediment; the latest news from our cavalry columns in Mississippi and Alabama; Gen. Stoneman's extraordinary raid, even into the fortifications of Richmond; the moderate estimate of our losses in the late battle, and the enormous massacre of Lee's men, according to his own confession; the high spirit of Gen. Hooker's army; the expressed confidence of the President; suppositions of important movements along the York River by our forces from Fortress Monroe and Suffolk; the persistent faith of loyal men in the strength of the Government, as expressed in their large subscriptions for Government stocks in the face of the late assumed reverse; the remembered fact that the Rebels have made no successful offensive movement of importance for months, and are in no condition at any point to make one now—that instead of success, they have recently been defeated in Western Louisiana, Missouri, and on the great river, their communications cut up in Virginia, Mississippi, and Alabama, and their forces under Lee, Bragg, and at Vicksburg placed in extreme peril, if not within our grasp; all these facts and deductions now press upon the public attention, and greatly mitigate, if they do not entirely disperse, the temporary gloom that arose from the recrossing of the Rappahannock—a gloom resulting rather from the failure of great anticipations than of great results. Besides this, there is an impression current that Joe Hooker's work is by no means finished; that, after all, his retreat will be but the recoil for another spring at the Rebel army, soon to be made with all the advantage of his late dear-bought experience.

## GEN. FREMONT—ARMY COMMANDERS.

*The World* sees fit to suspect that THE TRIBUNE, among others, will now urge the appointment of Gen. Fremont to the command of the Army of the Potomac, and therefore assails and defames him through a long article, picking a few sentences out of the evidence with regard to his Missouri campaign (taken before the Committee on the Conduct of the War) to form a basis for its attack. We do not suppose any one who ever did or ever could admire a man of Gen. Fremont's political convictions will esteem or trust him less for this malignant assault; but we do not the less thank *The World* for giving us an opportunity to review the whole ground of Military commands. These, briefly set forth, are our positions:

I. We greatly desire that Gen. Fremont, and every other loyal officer, be called into actual service; but we never did and do not now designate him for any particular post of duty. Knowing Gen. Fremont to be thoroughly loyal and devoted to the country's salvation, we are sure there must be some command which he can fill with usefulness to himself and honor to the country; and if it be only that of a regiment of cavalry or a battalion of scouts, we shall hope that he will accept it without hesitation and discharge its duties in such manner as to make the loyal regret that it was not more important. We think he had good reasons for asking to be relieved from serving under Gen. Pope; we think it was right in the Government to accede to that request; but we could wish he had been immediately assigned to some other, even if less important, position; and, if he had refused it, we would have justified the Government in at once mustering him out of the service. We have no different rules for our friends and others who are eating the Nation's salt; and we hold that the country cannot afford to pay any more officers (Gen. Scott, perhaps, excepted) than it obtains present work from. If Gen. Fremont, or any other General, is not wanted in the service, or will not do the work for which he is wanted, must him out and stop his pay; but we insist that there must be something that every officer properly retained in the service can do, and we are anxious to see him set about it.

II. As to the more important commands, we believe we have never troubled "the powers that be" with even a suggestion that one of them should be given to any particular General; if we have, we regret it. When McDowell was placed in command of the Army of the Potomac, we presumed it was all right, and acted accordingly. When he failed at Bull Run, we tried hard to stimulate public confidence in Gen. Scott as a "military necessity." When McClellan was called to the East—as while he previously commanded in the West—we cherished and diffused all possible faith in him, until Bull's Bluff and his strange persistency in lying for months besieged in and just about Washington by an army not one-third the strength of his own, with his flanks turned and his supplies straitened by the hostile blockade of the Potomac and interruption of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, we were tardily and reluctantly driven to give him up. That he is weak and slow, irresolute and timid, constantly deceived by Rebel fictions and imagining the enemy in his front at least twice as strong as they are, may be less his fault than his misfortune; but it does not suffice to explain that long season of disgraceful and ruinous torpor. We cannot help believing that Gen. McClellan is in sympathy with those who wish to see the public patience worn out by months of costly, dawdling, ineffective strategy and the Government thus forced into a shameful compromise, which shall put the Nation permanently under the heel of the Slave Power and render it the accomplice of its meditated crimes of foreign Annexation and domestic Expansion. Believing this the worst possible result of our present struggle, we should deprecate the appointment to an important command of even a man of real ability and courage who favored it, because we believe his heart cannot be in the work which has been forced on the republic by treason. How could we have faith in Gen. McClellan when of all the many avowed sympathizers with the Rebellion we have met during the past year—all who insist that it never can or that it never ought to be crushed—there is not one who is not his open and even passionate partisan? Are those men all natural fools? If not, how can we fail to perceive what they think and mean?

III. We entreat the President to exercise with entire freedom, and with absolute disregard of personal feelings and aspirations, his right to change commanders and raise or depress officers in the Military or Naval service of the country. The public peril is too great and too imminent to make deference to what are termed "claims" less than moral treason. If there is a corporal in any of our armies who evinces eminent, unmistakable ability to command it, put him in the place he is fittest for; if there is a Major-General who can render his best service as a drill-sergeant, give him that work to do; and if he refuses it, muster him out at once. The Rebels beat us in this respect, and we honor them for it. They know that they cannot afford to reverence sham. Gen. Floyd, Toombs, Wise, Ruggles, Pillow, G. W. Smith, Humphrey Marshall, Mansfield Lovell, and ever so many more, made a great noise formerly; but they have dropped out of sight, or roar very gently at present. Even Beauregard has found his proper level as a Chief of Engineers, instead of being, as he once fancied himself about to be, Generalissimo. Major-General Bishop Leonidas Polk puts no figure at present, unless it be in his episcopal vestments; while men who began very low in the Rebel armies are now near the head of the heap. It is the right way, Mr. Lincoln, to cast aside ever so good-looking an auger the moment you ascertain conclusively that it won't bore, and we pray you to do it fearlessly!

## BRITISH ENVOYMENTS IN AMERICA.

We have given in former articles a full account of the difficulty now pending between Brazil and England. The conduct of the English Government was so obviously unjustifiable that it was condemned by most of the British residents in Brazil, by men of all political parties in England, and by the whole press of the other European states. We are glad to learn that Brazil does not mean to submit unconditionally to all the behests of England. When Mr. Christie, the English Minister at Rio, left recently for home, the Emperor declined to receive him. The excitement in the country against England is growing, great armaments are being made, and the coast is being put in a state of defense.

The verdict of other nations, and the injury which the falling out with a State like Brazil must inflict upon British commerce, might have taught the British Ministry a lesson. But England has little mercy for Governments weaker than itself, and now picks a new quarrel with Chili. We learn by the last arrival from Panama that the greatest indignation prevails throughout that country, not only among the natives, but also among the British residents, because of a demand of the British Government. A young Englishman, of the name of Whitehead, had, it seems, most imprudently, as most people thought, most unjustifiably, exposed himself by his interference with a sentry in the streets during the late revolution. He lost on this occasion an arm, and the English Government now claims for him \$50,000. In case the Chilean Government should not immediately comply with this demand, it threatens to enforce the claim in the same manner in which it threatened some time ago to enforce an equally unjust claim against Brazil. In Chili, as in Brazil, the Government has agreed to pay the sum demanded under protest; but in Chili, even more than in Brazil, this new act of British arrogance is likely to fall on fertile ground and to bear abundant fruit.

Chili is a prosperous, well-administered, thoroughly American and democratic State. Since the establishment of its independence, it has enjoyed a greater quiet and exemption from internal troubles than any of those European monarchies which are now lustily denouncing the instability of American democracy. Chili has always shown a particular interest in the preservation of the independence of America, and in the cultivation of American civilization. The plan for a Conference and League of the American States, for the purpose of defending the latter in their independence against foreign dangers, and for promoting their internal prosperity, has no where in America warmer friends than in Chili. The encroachments of the British Government will prove to be the best encouragement to this scheme of a Grand American Conference. The project has already enlisted the warmest sympathies of leading men in every State of Central and South America, and nothing, certainly, will more effectually hasten the time of its realization than a continuance of British outrages.

## AFFAIRS IN DIXIE.

Mr. William S. Spear—a Union fugitive from Bedford County, Tennessee—writes us from Leesville, Indiana, the results of recent conferences at Nashville and other points with all manner of Southrons—invertebrate Unionists, malignant Secessionists, and all intermediate shades and grades. We sum up the fruits of his observations as follows:

I. It is the fixed determination of the Rebels, especially of their common soldiers, that all Unionists (the slaves excepted) shall be expelled from their country, whenever they shall have achieved its independence, and kept out of it. All who fled the country, or dodged the draft, or refused to aid the

Rebellion in purse or person, are to be put under the ban, and their property confiscated (as, by act of the Rebel Congress, that of known Unionists already is). The countless soldiers expect an apportionment of the confiscated lands among themselves, and will insist upon it.

II. Immigration from the North and from Europe is to be forbidden, unless under very peculiar circumstances. Slave importation is quite another matter, to be decided separately. But the Disunion soldiers in this war mean to constitute themselves "a peculiar people," and to that end will resist all immigration of what they deem inferior races.

III. The old party feuds are smothered, but burning fiercely beneath the surface. The Breckinridge Democrats, or original Secessionists, consider themselves a superior class, and mean to monopolize the places of trust and power; the Douglas Democrats and Bell Whigs (who were Unionists) think themselves "not a whit behind the chiefest apostles," and that their fighting for Secession should rub out old scores. This difference already excites jealousy, and will in time break out into open feud.

IV. Mr. Speer is an intense negro-hater, and thinks the negroes ought to be all exported—at least, from his State. With that, he thinks the great mass of the "Poor Whites" of the South would be zealous Unionists. They are democratic by instinct, and know that they can never be social equals of the wealthy, educated Whites while Slavery and negroes remain. Their instinct tends toward driving out the negroes by any means, in order to elevate their own social condition. Yet he says:

"The negroes in Confederate lines are very quiet, giving no trouble to their owners, who nevertheless are somewhat uneasy. The negro is thinking, listening, biding his time, and watching his chance. So an Abolitionist represents matters in the interior of his State. I met him in Nashville, March 29."

"I am often asked up here, 'will the negro fight?' As many are interested in the question, I will answer. I am more puzzled over the negro questions after twenty years' study of them than I was at the beginning. The negro, like the spirit-rapper, seems to have made fools of the wisest men of the land. But I am proud to say that I have never in all my life said one good word of Slavery, for, as I have seen it, I have never known a good thing of it. The negro is a curse to all people he mingles with, I am fully convinced. He is a slave a natural born sinner and a coward. But the Southern slave has a great deal of pride in him; if you can rouse the feeling, and inspire him with the clear hope of being free, I believe he will make a good soldier—a very desperate soldier. The experiment is to be tried. Some of us know. As a Southern man, I could wish the negro might not appear in this war; but if it will aid in putting down the Rebellion (as it will), and save the effusion of blood less interested in the questions at issue than his, why, you may arm negroes, mules, or whatever else can be effective, and welcome, so far as I feel concerned. Arming the negroes is touching the gallied jades exactly at the spot to make her win most. It is retaliatory and retributive justice."

—On the whole, we guess exile improves the clearness of Mr. Speer's perceptions, and that he is "sager than in his fortunes." We trust he will continue to live and learn.

## CONFESION EXTRAORDINARY.

A dispatch from New-Orleans brings to us the painful, pleasing intelligence—of historical importance, like the conflagration of the Alexandrian Library—that all the beautiful law-books of Benjamin, Bouford & Phinney have been confiscated, and are to be sold, as *spolia opima*, by public outcry. There is, unquestionably, a great deal of knowledge of natural law, of civil law, of public law, of merchant law, of common law, and of all other kinds of law, between the calf-covers; but as most of the books were printed in Boston or New-York, including, we think, even those monuments of wisdom, *The Louisiana Reports*, it mitigates the infliction to know that Benjamin, Bouford & Phinney would never have been able to read them again with any complacency. These attorneys have, by rushing into rebellion, shown themselves wiser than the whole of their collection, from the Pandects of Justinian down to Story's Commentaries on the Constitution—they have proved themselves above all ancient doctrines both of high and petty treason, to say nothing of simple larceny; and of course, it can be of no interest to them to know how thieves have been punished, nor how the world has sought to abate piracy, whether the malefactor was *Prædo Maritimus*, or a Water Thief, or *Viarum Græstor*, or a Land Thief—as they have been concerned in both branches of business equally. Hale's Pleas of the Crown must be full to people in their predicament of unpleasant suggestions, to say nothing of the beheadings, behangings, bequarterings, and disembowelings recorded in the State Trials. Nor is this all. Benjamin & Co., albeit lawyers, sworn to support the Constitution of the United States, upon the Evangelists of Almighty God, would have found Story and Kent rather dry and tedious reading. In short, in the Man-Owning Millennium, for which their hearts do hunger and pant, there would probably be an abrogation of all law for which there are any authorities—the proposition being to establish a new earth, if not a new Heaven. Suppose, after a realization of these pretty theories, a merchant of New-Orleans should find it inconvenient to take up his note. Perhaps Benjamin, as a notary, might be called upon to protest that note. But what good would Montefiore's Precedents do him? or Story on Bills of Exchange? Montefiore, who was an excellent Jew—as Benjamin is n't—wrote for civilization, not for barbarism; and when he went to demand payment or acceptance, for the purposes of protest, he didn't run any risk of having his brains scattered by the ready pistol of the insolvent. But Benjamin will hardly have so easy a time of it. When he presents the note, the bankrupt will probably offer to pay him, not in gold, but in lead or steel. But Benjamin will need no precedents to teach him how to behave on such an occasion. He will go with the security in one hand, and his six-shooter in the other; he will have much more occasion to read up in Larry on Gun-shot Wounds than in Moses Montefiore.

The truth is, under the new regime which Lawyer Benjamin wishes to inaugurate, every man will be a law unto himself—and what need will there then be of lawyers at all? The whole tendency of the Rebellion is to resolve society into its simple elements, and small chance will there then be for attorneys. Benjamin may go into the pork business, for all the declarations he will have to draw. Writs will be at a discount, when all are allowed to get who have the power, and all to keep who can. The right to wallop implies

the right to murder one's blacks—the right to cheat blacks out of fair money wages—for fair work implies an equal right, given the power, to cheat whites—if a man be of an inferior species to yourself, physically or intellectually, by the law of nature you may reduce him to servitude, and swallow him from his cradle to his grave, and subject his children to a similar degradation. That is the whole law of Slavery—and it is astonishing to notice how pretty simple it is. Bless you! you could write the whole elementary code of Servitude upon a sheet of paper—and as for the sciences of it, that would not be very voluminous. The sum and substance of it is—do as you please and can! Little use, indeed, will require Benjamin have for his once valuable library. Slavery is as high as Heaven above all Human Law, or as deep as Hell below it. In either case, it can dispense with statutes, courts, judges, juries, constables, and other apparatus of civilization. The jurisprudence of Timbuctoo is exceedingly simple!

And, finally, we shall not think the Slaveholding System perfect until it shall dispense with books altogether. Literature is a necessity only of Freedom. The Liberal Arts, as their name implies, appertain only to Freedom, and with Freedom only are they consistent. A man may cheat, drown, starve, fog, bust, stab, and shoot his Blacks without the least knowledge of Classics, History and Philosophy—may! he will do all these things all the better for having no knowledge of the kind. All the Slaveholder needs is physical culture; he must be strong-armed and heavy-handed; a good rider, that he may follow with the blood-hounds; and he must have the courage to do foul wrongs without fear of the consequences. We have, therefore, always wondered why the rich planters wasted their money, by sending their sons to the Northern Colleges, when it would have been so much better to train their progeny in the same kennel with their blood-hounds. The prime necessity was not humanization but diabolization. Most books have been printed in Northern Cities; and most colleges have flourished in Northern localities—and that should have been positive proof, we do not say to Slaveholding minds, but to Slaveholding instincts, of the danger of Libraries. Really, for confiscating them, the Man-Owning should thank our soldiers heartily!

Our own opinion—we should be very unhappy if we did not entertain it—is, that the world has outgrown Baronial Institutions, with all their coarseness, their chuminess and their cruelty. Their revival, where they have once disappeared, is morally impossible, and their perpetuation in the Confederate States as entirely out of the question. The world can not much longer be governed in any quarter of it by the prestige of blood as the tenure of land. Mr. Carlyle, in speaking of Feudal Scotland, says: "It was full of continual broils, dissensions, massacres; a people in the last stages of rudeness and destitution; with hungry, fierce Barons, not so much as able to form any arrangement with each other how to divide what they fished from their poor drudges, but obliged to make of every alteration a revolution." This is a fair picture of what the Confederacy, once nominally established, will present. Shall we believe it possible? Not till the dull world turns back in its orbit! Not till all the laws of Social Progress are repealed!

## RETRIBUTION.

Gov. Andrew's letter, printed in another column, on the relative positions of negro and white volunteers, and referring especially to the protection which will be afforded the blacks, is a perfectly satisfactory declaration of his opinion and purpose, but does not seem to be an authoritative announcement in behalf of the Government. We have never doubted that President Lincoln and Secretary Stanton, when deciding to send negro regiments into the field, would sooner or later see to it that their military rights should be respected by the Rebels; that if captured they should be treated like other prisoners of war. But how will they enforce those rights, and when?

Jefferson Davis has issued a Proclamation dooming to death or Slavery every negro taken in arms, and every white officer who commands negro troops. Black privates and white Generals alike are threatened with the halter. That Proclamation is still in force, and Murfreesboro and Galveston and twenty other places are witnesses that it is not an idle threat. The Rebels have hanged or sold into slavery every negro soldier or servant whom they have taken. What has this Government done about it? Nothing.

What must the Government do about it? One of two things. Wait till a regiment of blacks is captured and shot, and then hang a regiment of white Rebels. That is one course. We do not want to see it become necessary. The other is to proclaim now, in advance of any such catastrophe, that every negro mustered into the national service is covered by the national flag, and must be treated, if captured, as a prisoner of war, and not otherwise; and that exactly as is done unto our black soldiers when prisoners will we do to white Rebels—if the blacks are hanged, the Rebel whites shall be hanged likewise. In other words, announce Retaliation as the policy of the Government.

It will not do to leave this momentous question to the decision of individual Generals. Some may have one opinion, some another, and we shall find ourselves weltering in another chaos of conflicting policies, as we did in the first year of this war, about fugitive slave renditions. Gen. Hunter and, we believe, Gen. Rosecrans have issued retaliatory orders; but Jefferson Davis dares to hang and shoot and cut our captured black soldiers and servants, because the Government has never responded to his proclamation; and he will adhere to his savage policy until he hears from Washington a defiance in answer to his own. Nothing will settle the question but the proclamation or general order of Abraham Lincoln, Commander-in-Chief of the forces of the United States. Unless that comes in season, we shall find ourselves drifting helplessly into bloody massacres which it is still possible to avert. That is to say, unless this Government waives actual retaliation.

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